

## Fresh Products Branch Directive

FPB-611  
1/15/93

### INTERNAL CUTTING POLICY FOR PEACHES

#### I. PURPOSE

This directive states the Branch's policy on cutting for internal defects of peaches.

#### II. BACKGROUND

Because of a 1981 court case, the Branch was barred by a Federal judge from cutting to determine the presence of internal shattered pits in peaches. Subsequent correspondence in 1983 from the Deputy Administrator of the Agricultural Marketing Service stated, in part "...the no cutting policy will continue in effect indefinitely unless there are widespread consumer complaints or unforeseen marketing problems develop during any given season." Since that time the question has arisen several times as to whether the policy is still in effect and, if so, exactly how is the policy to be applied.

#### III. POLICY

The "no cutting" policy remains in effect, but it applies only to the defect "shattered pit." Inspectors are directed to cut for and score any other internal defects of peaches, but we are not permitted to score shattered pit or to cut for it at applicant's request.



Karl E. Torline  
Branch Chief

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